## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

| INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT        | )                   |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| OF BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, | CASE NO. 2003-00501 |
| INC. WITH EXPRESS TELEPHONE      | )                   |
| SERVICES, INC.                   | )                   |

## ORDER

On January 5, 2004, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and Express Telephone Services, Inc. ("Express") submitted to the Commission their negotiated agreement for interconnection of their networks, physical collocation, rights-of-way, pole attachments, number portability, billing, and the resale of BellSouth's services. The agreement was negotiated pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act"), 47 U.S.C. Sections 251 and 252. Section 252(e) of the 1996 Act requires the parties to an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation to submit the agreement for approval to the Commission.

The Commission has reviewed the agreement and finds that no portion of the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement. The Commission also finds that the implementation of this agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

Express must comply with all relevant Commission mandates for serving in this Commonwealth.

The Commission, having been otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that the negotiated agreement between BellSouth and Express is approved and is effective on the date of this Order.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2004.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director